

## United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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## MEMBER OF NOTORIOUS 'SEX, MONEY AND MURDER' GANG CONVICTED OF SLAYING BY A U.S. JURY

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that SEAN CARR, a/k/a "Nut," a member of the violent Bloods gang called Sex, Money and Murder ("SMM") was found guilty in Manhattan federal court after a three-week trial before United States District Judge THOMAS P. GRIESA late yesterday of racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, murder, robbery, firearms and narcotics charges. The murder charge stemmed from the August 18, 1994, slaying of Tony Morton in the Soundview section of the Bronx.

CARR was arrested in May 2001 along with 13 other members of SMM. The other 13 gang members have all been convicted of racketeering, firearms or narcotics charges related to their gang activities.

Evidence at the trial demonstrated that CARR was a member of Sex, Money and Murder, a set of the Bloods founded by Peter Rollack a/k/a "Pistol Pete," in 1993 and that CARR and the other members of SMM controlled the crack cocaine business in the Soundview Houses, a public housing project in the Soundview section of the Bronx, and in the streets immediately surrounding the Soundview Houses between 1993 and May 2001. The testimony at trial demonstrated that members of SMM, including CARR, gave permission to certain individuals to sell marijuana and heroin in the immediate vicinity of the Soundview Houses, but prevented, through intimidation and violence, non-SMM members from selling crack in the area.

The Government presented evidence at trial that CARR and other members of SMM used public stores in the vicinity of Rosedale and Randall Avenues in the Bronx to distribute narcotics, and that they stored drugs and weapons in one of those stores. As part of the racketeering charges, CARR was also convicted of robbing two residents of the Soundview Houses at gunpoint with another member of SMM.

In addition, the evidence presented at trial demonstrated that CARR murdered a victim named Tony Morton on August 18, 1994, in order to increase and maintain CARR's position in the gang. Testimony given by other gang members established that Morton, unknown to the members of SMM, had

driven a white car through the neighborhood. Perceiving the car to be a threat, members of SMM pulled Morton and a passenger out of the car and began to interrogate and assault them. At that point, the testimony at trial showed that CARR executed Morton with a shot to the neck and a shot to the head.

This Indictment was one in a series of federal indictments from the Southern District of New York charging members and associates of Sex, Money and Murder. To date, approximately 53 individuals have been arrested and charged with federal crimes in connection with this investigation.

The first of the large-scale SMM indictments was brought in 1998, when Peter Rollack, a/k/a "Pistol Pete," the founder of SMM, was charged with 10 other members of his gang in a 21-count federal racketeering Indictment charging them with a series of murders and attempted murders that left 8 people dead and at least 4 others seriously injured. That Indictment also charged Rollack and members of his gang with trafficking in cocaine and crack cocaine in New York City, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina.

In January 2000, Rollack pled guilty to the charges, admitting to having committed six murders, one attempted murder, and having conspired to murder another two people. He was thereafter sentenced to life plus 105 years' imprisonment without

parole under strict conditions of confinement.

The continuing investigation that has led to these indictments is a part of a broader effort of law enforcement agencies to suppress gang activity in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Precinct of the Bronx. The efforts have focused not only on investigating and arresting members of Sex, Money and Murder and other groups that have preyed upon the Castle Hill/Soundview neighborhoods and their residents, but also on preventive efforts, such as opening a Safe Haven in a neighborhood school to serve children and their families.

The Safe Haven is a collaborative effort funded through the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed program with the participation of law enforcement agencies as well as the neighborhood residents, YMCA, Kip's Bay Boys and Girls Club, the Board of Education and many others. In addition to sponsoring after-school educational and recreational programs, the Safe Haven has also offered a series of Gang Prevention Workshops for children and their families.

In an effort to communicate directly the consequences of gang activity, this Office and its partners through Weed and Seed have begun and will continue to advise neighborhood youth of the penalties imposed on those who have chosen the path of violence. As each gang member has been sentenced, notices of the

sentence that the gang member received have been posted in areas where the gang members congregated, as well as on the streets that form the corridors to schools.

As a result of these convictions, CARR faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole plus 5 years.

Mr. COMEY said this case and the other SMM cases are the result of a long-term, ongoing investigation by the United States Attorney's Office, the New York City Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. COMEY praised the outstanding cooperative efforts of the New York City Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys HELEN CANTWELL and DAVID BERARDINELLI are in charge of the prosecution.

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